

THE DAILY CONSTITUTION: ATLANTA, GA., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 14, 1881.

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ATLANTA, GA., JANUARY 14, 1881.

GOVERNOR PLASTED, of Maine, has been inaugurated. He is the first governor under the constitutional amendment extending the gubernatorial term to two years.

The beautiful capital of Peru is closely besieged, three divisions of the forces of Chili being under its walls—this is, if he has any. Its fall is only a question of time, and then will undoubtedly be a treaty of peace based on terms dictated by the victorious Chilianos.

The attention of the reader is called to two very interesting communications which may be found on the third page of this issue. Both articles should be read by every citizen of the state; for they emanate from two of the keenest and strongest minds in the state.

The absentee lists of congressmen for Monday and Tuesday do not include a single Georgia name—we are glad to state, Mr. Stephen's health is such that he is not expected to attend the sessions regularly, and the appearance of his name in the absentee lists not alarm his friends. In all important political tests of strength, Mr. Stephen's almost invariably votes or secures a pair.

We publish this morning the full official footings of the population of the state. It will be seen that there are 16,689 more females than males in the old state. It is a peculiarity of old states that there are only 10,310 people of foreign birth in the state will astonish all who do not stop to think that the state has never taken steps to encourage immigration. The foreign population of Alabama is 9,650, of Arkansas, 10,295, and of North Carolina, 3,768.

In the senatorial contests up to date the slate has generally gone through unopposed. John F. Miller in California, John Sherman in Ohio, Ben Harrison in Indiana, Joe Hawley in Connecticut, and Engine Hale in Maine, each and all started in the lead, and easily secured nominations. So with James G. Fair of Nevada, T. B. Bayard of Delaware, C. W. Jones of Florida, and F. M. Cockrell of Missouri. These men have either been elected or have been placed in a position that is equivalent to election. The slate was fixed some in Michigan, when O. D. Conger beat Moses Baldwin and Bagby, but all three are stowards. The doubtful contests remain as a rule to be settled, and of the whole lot the New York and Tennessee cases seem to attract the most attention.

Under the call of states, last Monday, Mr. Speer introduced a bill to exempt from duty all machinery used in the manufacture of cotton thread and cotton goods, and Mr. Felton a bill for the relief of L. P. Glidger. On Mr. Nichol's motion the public printer was ordered to give preference to the reports of the engineers charged with the surveys of rivers and harbors. Mr. Smith presented, through the petition box, a bill to improve the navigation of the Flint river. Mr. Stephens introduced a bill to aid the citizens of Augusta, urging the improvement of the Savannah river below Augusta. He also presented two bills—to appropriate \$40,000 for the improvement of the Savannah river above Augusta, and the other to appropriate \$8,000 for the improvement of the same river below Augusta. No Georgia business was presented or taken up in the session on Monday.

Brasted by Foreign Agents.

One of the results of the array of pension bills passed by the democrats has been to fill Washington city with pension agents, and their business has grown to vast proportions. Mr. Nordhoff, of the Herald, says that there are claims agents in this business who employ from fifty to a hundred clerks, and some even more. It is important, in this connection, that pensioners should understand that the fees they pay to those agents are utterly thrown away. Commissioner Bentley, of the pension bureau, says that it is not unusual that a soldier or other person called upon to represent him should hire an attorney in Washington to present his case. He can get all the advice he wants at home, and any man can prepare his papers better than they are prepared in Washington. The commissioner says that a claim agent in Washington can do nothing legitimately except to act as clerk or go between to do what the pensioner and pension office can do just as well directly. A claim sent directly to the pension office can do just as well directly. A claim sent directly to the pension office gets the same attention as if an agent in Washington had presented it, and he gets the full explanation of what may be lacking in his papers, instead of an abstract, such as the claim agent probably sends to the pension office. He can engage no pension or claim agent at all, but to apply directly to the pension office and let his papers drawn up at home. The pension office furnishes blanks for the original application with all necessary instructions for drawing up the papers. Prints also, and furnishes free to applicants a book containing all the pension laws and all the forms and instructions as to what evidence is necessary in each class of cases.

The commissioners says that these claim agents are made people to act with the intent by producing the relief of the poor and ill-informed persons that it is difficult to get a claim properly considered without the intervention of a lawyer, and also that they possess some

means of influencing the pension bureau to examine or to hasten the disposition of the cases they have in hand. All this is false. Pensioners and persons making claims must rest assured that these claim agents have not been specially trained to do this. Their claim agents know this so well themselves that they constantly ask their poor clients to write to their member of congress to ascertain the condition of the case. The bureau in hundreds, and indeed thousands of instances, has discovered by correspondence sent it by claimants to whom the claim agent to whom the case had been intrusted has written letters pretending to have done much pushed the case, when in fact nothing had been done except to put the papers on file. All this in order to persuade the poor claimants to pay money in advance for services which had not been rendered, and which are not necessary in any case. These claim agents are paid by the pension bureau never from the effects of an inadvertent use of the phrase "millions" by a heated southern orator thirty or forty years before the war. It sticks particularly in the craw of the distinguished editor of the Tribune; but we venture to say that if the author of the language quoted had known it would have been to keep it to himself. This is the new method, and the old method has substituted remarks of a less weighty character. Our national flag, it seems, is sensitively affected.

Since the death of the paragraphs' author, the blue pencil seems to have passed into the hands of the feds who write insurance articles for the newspapers. It is high time that the man who invented the blue pencil had met his doom.

EXTRIMES sometimes get in—a man in the same barn. The chief products of Ohio, for instance, are swine and stamens.

Learned from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that the newspaper reporters of that city are sharing with the ins and outs of the variety show. This speaks volumes for the variety of the news in the department of the reporters.

The negotiations under which the republic of Texas ceded the union are very embarrassing to the republicans—more so, perhaps, than the census gains in the southern section of Editor Medill's Nation.

Jim Ensorius is mayor and Lowdies is alcalde in ordinary, and between the two he will get the George Western started, and the streets put in a decent condition. Our Commissars will know the reason why.

There is a cool family in Atlanta, it is notorious that it is not the fault of the dealers, or the railroads, or the mines.

The House Committee on Education is to meet again to consider the bill to extend the department of education.

The Commission informs Mr. Nordhoff that a claimant can and will, in all cases, get his claim examined and decided upon and his pension. If one is due, sent him precisely as well and just as quickly if he transacts his business himself directly with the department, and he will save money by doing so. The whole business has been so carefully simplified by the pension bureau that there is no mystery at all about requiring the intervention of an agent in Washington or at any other place. Congress and the pension bureau have co-operated to this end, because it would be great injustice to poor soldiers or their heirs to obligate them to engage lawyers to get their claims allowed. The commission denounces the whole system of claim agents to the world, and the public printer to the pension bureau.

—Baron Adolphe Rothschild of Naples, has closed out his business, and retired.

—There is not a Smith in the United States senate, and yet that body is supposed to represent the people—Philadelphians.

—The original Anderson, Hermann, Blitz and Heller, the renowned magicians, are all dead; yet performers are traveling on.

—Mile Saza Bernhardi's engagement to Mr. Abby in America, who was originally to be married to him, has been extended to April 1.

—Shades of Robeson and Thompson! Hear the mighty sea-horse cough!

—When the sheriff dropped in.

—Little the prima donna, who sang Harry H. Corbin's songs, and his rich tenor voice will sing the musical night songs and salute the musical night birds.

—It is stated in Washington that Senator Conkling has engaged the services of Senator Vorhees and Carpenter as his counsel, in the suit against the railroads concerning divorce suit of Sprague vs. Sprague.

—There was a young man in Missouri.

—When the sheriff dropped in.

—The Hoosiers don't care about being considered particularly high-toned. They are becoming particularly high-toned.

—Miss Ada Cavendish, who arrived in New York on the 17th, has been compelled to cancel her engagements. Her mother will return to England in April.

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—Just before the presidential election the New York correspondent of the London Standard, who is a member of the Conservative party, said that the election of Mr. Lincoln would be a calamity to the country, and on honest pensioners as well. They are constantly searching for some excuse to make a claim against the government because they divide the proceeds if we can succeed.

Next Apportionment.

The politicians and alleged statesmen are turning their minds on the apportionment of the states, and yet there is apparently no reason why some should be wasted.

The apportionment should really be a problem of very simple mathematics. The state population is, in round numbers, 42,269,965. Nevada and Delaware have all only 10,819, but they must be allotted a member each.

By subtracting the population of the two unrepresented states from that of the thirty-six other states, we have the constitutional basis for reapportionment. It would seem to be an easy matter to divide this basis of representation by any given number of representatives; and it would be it not that nearly every state is struggling to gain a fraction that would give it an additional member.

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